

CLAIMS

1. A sliding cover comprising:

an outside plate;

5 a structural member fixed to the rear face of the  
outside plate;

a movable holding member disposed in a space between  
the outside plate and the structural member; and

10 toggling means disposed between the holding member and  
the outside plate or the structural member, wherein

the holding member comprises two parallel racks and  
guiding portions disposed at both end portions and extending  
in the same direction as the racks;

15 the holding member comprises a holding plate, an even  
number of pinions meshed with each other and supported by  
the holding plate so as to be rotatable, and guiding  
components supported by the holding plate, the even number  
of pinions being disposed between the guiding components;

20 the pinions located at both ends are meshed with the  
racks, and the guiding components are engaged with the  
guiding portions so as to be slidable; and

the biasing direction in which the toggling means  
biases the holding member is reversed substantially at the  
midpoint of the movable range of the holding member.

2. The sliding cover according to Claim 1, wherein  
the structural member further comprises an operating  
projection protruding to the opposite side of the outside  
plate.

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3. The sliding cover according to Claim 2, wherein  
the operating projection has a pushing surface inclined  
to the moving direction of the holding member, and is  
supported by the structural member so as to be rotatable;

10 and

the pushing surface is biased by biasing means  
interposed between the structural member and the operating  
projection such that the sides of the pushing surface along  
the rotational axis are perpendicular to the moving

15 direction of the holding member.

4. The sliding cover according to Claim 2, wherein  
the operating projection is formed of a spring having a  
pushing surface inclined to the moving direction of the

20 holding member; and

the pushing surface is resilient to the moving  
direction of the holding member.

5. An electronic device having a sliding cover provided  
25 on a body such that the state of the sliding cover can be

changed between a closed state to block sections to be closed and an open state for exposing the sections, wherein

the sliding cover comprises an outside plate, a structural member fixed to the rear face of the outside plate, a movable holding member disposed in a space between the outside plate and the structural member, and toggling means disposed between the holding member and the outside plate or the structural member;

the holding member comprises two parallel racks and guiding portions disposed at both end portions and extending in the same direction as the racks;

the holding member comprises a holding plate, an even number of pinions meshed with each other and supported by the holding plate so as to be rotatable, and guiding components supported by the holding plate, the even number of pinions being disposed between the guiding components;

the pinions located at both ends meshed with the racks, and the guiding components are engaged with the guiding portions so as to be slidable;

the biasing direction in which the toggling means biases the holding member is reversed substantially at the midpoint of the movable range of the holding member; and

the sliding cover is retained on the body by fixing the holding member of the sliding cover to the body.

6. The electronic device having the sliding cover according to Claim 5, wherein

the sliding cover comprises an operating projection protruding to the opposite side of the outside plate; and

5 a switch provided in the body is operated when the state of the sliding cover is changed.

7. The electronic device having the sliding cover according to Claim 6, wherein

10 the operating projection comprises a pushing surface inclined to the moving direction of the holding member, and is supported by the structural member so as to be rotatable;

the pushing surface is biased by biasing means interposed between the structural member and the operating  
15 projection such that the sides of the pushing surface along the rotational axis are perpendicular to the moving direction of the holding member, and is biased in the direction in which the pushing surface pushes an operation-receiving piece of the switch provided in the body; and

20 the biasing force of the biasing means is large enough to push the operation-receiving piece of the switch.

8. The electronic device having the sliding cover according to Claim 6, wherein

25 the operating projection is formed of a spring having a

pushing surface inclined to the moving direction of the holding member;

the pushing surface is resilient to the moving direction of the holding member; and

5 the resilience is large enough to push the operation-receiving piece of the switch.